Keeping Bees Near the Blossoms.
G. M. DOOLITTLE.

Colorado Convention Report.
H. C. MOREHOUSE, Sec.

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MASSACHUSETTS AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE

W. C. Lyman's Apiary, Home and Swarming Management.

(See Page 6.)

1. Apiary of W. C. Lyman. 2 and 3. Three-Bottom-Board Plan of Handling Swarming. 4. Mr. Lyman's Home, in Du Page Co., Ill.

a great brotherhood of people working for the common interest of all the bee-keepers of the United States—farmers, specialists and all.

Mr. Brown—This convention in Denver, two years ago, appointed a committee, and I was one member of it, to draw up plans by which an association of this kind might be formed. It is a fact that that committee did go out and did report at our last convention in Los Angeles, and the committee was appointed again, of which I was made chairman, and I say it is proper at this time and in this place for this thing to be brought up. It is not necessary for this Association to be converted into this; it is not the intention that it should be so; but this is the place for us to take up this matter and protect ourselves against this gigantic honey concern, this combination that is combining and is crushing the life out of the honey market. Now I know whereof I speak when I speak about this formation, and I can put my finger on them, I can tell you exactly who those people are. It is not well for me to give it out to the public, and have it go into the press as to who these people are, but they do exist; they do control affairs; they do control our honey market today, and the thing for us to do is to organize and meet these things with organization, and I say it is properly in place before this convention. This matter comes up today right in perfect line with our work. Let us lend a helping hand to this new organization, and let it not interfere in any way with this Association.

Dr. Bohrer—I hope the motion to appoint such a committee will prevail, but like Mr. Abbott I do not want to create a monster that will gobble us all up. That some kind of organization is necessary is a fact, but be careful how you organize.

Mr. Dadant—I cannot agree with Mr. Abbott in the matter of the propriety of bringing this before the convention. There is no greater interest among bee-keepers than the selling of their crop, and where are we to discuss our intrests if not in our convention? Since I have been here I have met a half dozen of our bee-keepers who have asked me, "What are we going to get for our honey?" "What shall I ask?" What answer can I give them? The market prices are set by an organization. These people are organized, and they are going to last; you can't kill the trusts; you can regulate and tax them but you cannot kill them. The only thing for us to do is to organize, and you may call it a trust if you please. I hardly think we can start with a capital of $50,000, but I think we can and should start with a committee that would tell our members, when they want to know it, at what price they should hold their honey. They can do it. If we simply stay together, and we will some day, we will get our prices just the same as the Tin Can Trust, and can probably produce honey cheaper then than we can today by being organized.

Mr. Coggshall—I want to take issue with Mr. Abbott. There is a combination against honey producers. I went into Syracuse and wanted to sell honey to the bakery there, and they said, "You submit samples and send them to Chicago, and then you will get your price." A combination, as sure as you are born.

Mr. Stanley—If there is any general combine in the honey business I have failed to become a member, and I believe Mr. Weber would testify in the same way, and perhaps there are other large buyers. Perhaps in some local way the merchants may be able to combine to fix the price. I believe I would have found it out if it was extensive.

Mr. Hershiser—Evidently the gentleman who last spoke is too small in the business to have been a member of these combinations. I know these combinations do exist, and exist in the shape of the National Biscuit Company. I had occasion a year or two ago to sell a carload of honey for a party in Arizona, and I submitted samples of the honey to the branches of the National Biscuit Company, and the samples were sent to Chicago to be passed upon by the purchasing agent there, for all the branches of the Buscuit Company, and the price was fixed, and there was no deviation from it. There are a lot of small individual buyers that I suppose do not belong to this organization.

Mr. Stanley—I should have said I handle almost exclusively comb honey, and we handled something like 300,000 pounds of it last year.

Mr. York—I think perhaps some of us misunderstand the paper. I think I did. Mr. Brown said there was a sort of combination that controlled the prices of honey. I gathered from that that there was a combination of honey dealers that was buying and selling honey. The National Biscuit Company does not buy and sell honey. They buy for their own purposes. As to Mr. Coggshall, if he does not care to sell his honey at their prices he need not do so. I know the National Biscuit Company bought nine car-loads at one time, but I wouldn't consider them a combination to fix the price of honey at all. They are simply buyers for their own use.

Mr. Hardy—There is one thing about this thing that I don't understand, this matter of assigning stock. It looks to me as though the small or ordinary purchaser of honey is going to be left in the background. We in New York State have joint organizations which take in anybody, and make a State organization. He states a capital of $50,000; the minimum amount of each share is $100. Suppose, as we have in the United States, in a great many sections ,people that have no kind of organization, they belong to this National Association and nothing else, now where is this $100 share coming from? There is no man in an ordinary way keeping bees but does his little local trade. In my case I get a little more for my honey. Suppose they find out I am getting more for my honey in my section, and suppose this organization you propose to form finds that out, I have either got to put in the $100 or else stay outside. They are liable to rush in on my market, and flood me, so that I will be obliged to take the lower price along with the "common cattle." I would like to have a little enlightenment on this matter. Is this $100 coming from our county or State organization, or where? I am not willing to trot after the band-wagon. If you can't be a bell-cow don't be any.

Mr. Dadant—The suggestion I made was especially in regard to giving prices as guides. I realize the fact that California and the East are entirely different. In California there are large purchasers. Sometimes one man will furnish several car-loads, or two men get together and furnish the car-load, and this matter of organization is much more important to them. But if there is a central organization branching out, you would be very glad to write to them to find out what honey is selling for, and that they are setting the price of honey. If you who deal in a small way in honey can find out honey is selling for more than you are getting you certainly will raise the price. If you have a central organization which says, We will set the price at so much—it should not be too much—and they tell you ahead what the price will be, it will be a good thing; but if you are blindfolded you will be at a disadvantage.

Mr. Abbott—I understand the paper to mean just what Mr. York thought. I thought Mr. Brown meant that there was a combination of honey buyers and I wanted to know about that. Another thing Mr. Brown misunderstood, I do not object to discussing this question here, or to giving out prices or anything, but the thing I objected to was the formation of that committee here. I have no objection to Mr. Brown saying we all want to organize, and then organize the whole Association if you want to into a company of that kind. I was not opposing that. I simply wanted it understood I didn't want this National Association to appoint the committee to make another organization. The discussion is on whether this committee shall be appointed or not appointed.

Mr. Pressler—Is this committee to be the permanent committee?

Pres. Harris—No, simply to report back ways and means.

Mr. Pressler—There is no reason why this committee should not be appointed.

The President put the motion to appoint the committee, which on a vote having been taken was declared carried.

(Continued next week.)

Please send us Names of Bee-Keepers who do not now get the American Bee Journal, and we will send them sample copies. Then you can very likely afterward get them subscriptions, for which work we offer valuable premiums in nearly every number of this journal. You can aid much by sending in the names and addresses when writing us on other matters.

Index to Volume XLIV.

SUBJECTS.

Abdomen of a bee.... 295
Acklin out-apiaries.... 806
Adulterated beeswax.... 611
Adulterated honey....294, 318, 323, 361
Adulteration of honey.... 117, 375
Advertising honey....387, 403, 419, 467, 469, 502, 547, 733, 839.... 851
African way of tasting honey.... 728
Afterswarms....500, 601, 730
Age of larvæ bees select for queen-rearing.... 837
Ages of bees that go out with a swarm.... 728
Alfalfa....250, 534, 541, 597, 633, 682, 693
Alfalfa and cleome.... 693
Alfalfa and sweet clover.... 75
Alfalfa and the Omega.... 452
Alfalfa farmers.... 165
Alsike clover.... 487
American Bee Journal convention reports.... 564
Ammonia for stings and removing propolis.... 382
Amount of honey to produce a pound of bees.... 427
Antennæ of the bee.... 294, 610
Ants....99, 110, 229, 346, 553
Apiarian advertising novelties.... 116
Apiarian display at St. Louis....87, 541
Apiarian drama, An (poem).... 508
Apiarian exhibits at Fairs....463, 627, 646, 804
Apiarian ideas changing, Some old.... 407
Apiarian neglect sometimes more powerful.... 425
Apiarian nuts to crack.... 115
Apiarian progress.... 331
Apiaries—starting.... 326
Apiary bulletin.... 122
Apiary, Enlarging the.... 250
Apicultural investigation, Government....193, 398
Apiculture in France, Progress of....419, 750
Apicultural work.... 750
Apis florea.... 457
Apis mellifera vs. Apis mellifica.... 281
Appreciated appreciation.... 500
Area of honey-plants for 100 colonies.... 861
Arizona honey vs. eastern honey.... 397
Artificial eggs, so-called....633, 712
Artificial or corn-juice honey.... 243
Artificial paraffin honey-comb.... 627
Artificial swarms—robbing.... 808
Asbestos lining for hives.... 387
Average yields per colony....51, 180

Baby nucleus....645, 718, 729, 810, 843, 859
Bachelor bee-keepers, Trio of.... 427
Bacillus Gaytoni.... 131
Bacillus of foul brood.... 179
Bacteria.... 659
Bait-sections....484, 581
Balling queens.... 761
Banded bees.... 89
Barrels or cans for honey in America.... 99
Basswood and buckwheat, Growing.... 314
Basswood lumber for hives.... 42
Basswoods.... 173
Bears and bees....121, 186
Beauty lotion.... 793
Bee-books.... 249
Bee-brushes.... 126
Bee-cellar....346, 445
Bee-census of the world.... 552
Bee-disease? Is it a new.... 547
Bee-escapes....278, 358, 506, 552, 777
Bee-hive in his bedroom.... 468
Bee-hives in Europe, Artistic.... 765
Bee-houses....30, 73, 232, 380
Bee-inspector law, Getting a.... 531
Bee-keepers and hive-keepers.... 378
Bee-keepers' associations, Objects of.... 775
Bee-keepers crowding each other.... 105
Bee-keepers of our country, Some big.... 19
Bee-keepers' planning.... 676
Bee-keepers' rights to territory.... 198
Bee-keeping and fishing.... 376
Bee-keeping as a business....653, 873
Bee-keeping at the St. Louis Exposition.... 463
Bee-keeping by mail.... 666
Bee-keeping for women....199, 681, 697
Bee-keeping, How I dress for.... 280

BEE-KEEPING IN—
Alabama.... 350
Arabia.... 869
California.... 505
Georgia.... 300
Great Britain and Ireland.... 678
Illinois and Indiana.... 227
Minnesota.... 363
Mississippi....269, 511
Missouri.... 362
New York.... 525
North Dakota.... 92
Northwestern New Mexico.... 702
Oregon.... 250
Russia.... 878
South Dakota.... 394
Southern Georgia.... 74
Tunis.... 428
West Virginia.... 700

Bee-keeping in straw skeps.... 151
Bee-keeping of the world.... 460
Bee-keeping pay?—does.... 477
Bee-keeping—the uncertainties of.... 307
Bee-laws, How to get.... 358
Bee-literature for the common people.... 487
Bee-papers....211, 323, 355, 469, 579, 666
Bee-paralysis....248, 538, 571
Bee-pasturage.... 534
Bee-poison—results of inhaling.... 71
Bee-quilts.... 89
Bees and beeswax, Demand for.... 435
Bees and fruit-drying.... 186
Bees and king-birds and other birds.... 727
Bees and legumes.... 533
Bees are coming home. When the (poem).... 36
Bees are on the wing. When the (poem).... 241
Bees breeding in January.... 286
Bees dying....26, 122, 392, 410
Bee-shed apiary.... 52
Bees help build a beautiful home.... 548
Bees humming in the cellar.... 248
Bees in box-hives.... 798
Bees in Cuba....357, 564
Bees in India.... 393
Bees in Jamaica.... 791
Bees killed on telephone wires.... 426
Bees loafing.... 587
Bees marking their location.... 564
Bees mixing in hives.... 530
Bee-smokers....83, 358, 697
Bees moving eggs....106, 108
Bees not going into the super.... 521
Bees of India.... 274
Bees packed all summer.... 280
Bees packing pollen in the cells....294, 565
Bee-stings and bee-sting remedies....362, 382, 660, 718, 779.... 862
Bees' tongue.... 758
Bees storing honey in glass jars....216, 250
Bee-supplies a year in advance, Providing.... 228
Bee-supplies in Colorado, Manufacturing.... 135
Bee-supplies, Ordering....259, 451, 520
Bee-supply dealers....756, 852
Beeswax....330, 405, 457, 467, 682, 728, 810
Bee-tents....343, 532, 616
Bee-tree laws and justice.... 568
Beet-sugar....375, 662
Beginners, Advice to.... 254
Beginners' big honey-yields.... 468
Beginner's questions....69, 170, 185
Beginning with bees....711, 871
Berthe I (Mrs.) Who is....323, 371
Bible encyclopædia.... 452
Bicycles.... 870
Bidsom feeder....588, 698, 797

BIOGRAPHICAL—
Adelsbach, P. F.... 741
Bohrer, Dr. G.... 645
Harrison, Mrs. L.... 437
Hyde, H. H.... 644
Langstroth, Rev. L. L.... 677
Laws, W. H.... 644
Miller, Henry L.... 741
Morehouse, Harry Clinton.... 698
Scholl, Louis H.... 644
Scott, C. M.... 357
Theilmann, C.... 405
Tucker, J. W.... 388
Wagner, Samuel.... 180
Weber, C. H. W.... 85
White, W. H.... 644

Birds and bees, Speed of.... 516
Black bees....150, 343, 454
Black brood....358, 454, 457, 552, 782
Black medick.... 651
Board covers.... 51
Bogus comb honey and Ladies' Home Journal 403, 435.... 627
Bohrer's (Dr.) meal prescription.... 329
Book-learning vs. experience in bee-keeping.... 515
Borax for ants.... 346
Bottling honey.... 232
Bottom-boards.... 126
Bottom starters....27, 106, 220, 713
Brood-chambers, Large vs. small.... 278
Brood-frames....85, 173, 232, 361, 538, 683
Brood-frame top-bars, Thickness of.... 132
Brood-rearing....586, 613
Buckling combs....188, 334, 410
Buckwheat....249, 522, 569, 761
Building cells upon capped cells.... 594
Building comb.... 216
Bulk-comb honey.... 72, 124, 206, 846
Bulk honey and beeswax, Selling.... 168
Bulk or chunk honey.... 296
Burr-combs....250, 602
Busy as a bee, As (poem).... 477

California experiment in honey-production.... 195
California bees, honey and producers.... 14, 45, 584
Calling for honey at hotels, restaurants, etc.... 179
Canadian honey in England.... 771
Candied honey....45, 739
Candor in dealing with customers.... 680
Candy for queen-cages.... 506
Candy, White nougat.... 264
Cane-sugar....22, 118, 526, 642
Canucks and the National.... 361
Capped honey souring in the hive.... 41
Carbon bisulphide as an insecticide....41, 82, 86
Carefulness with bees, Importance of.... 632
Carload of wives....150, 199
Carniolan bees.... 761
Carniolan historic hive-painting.... 856
Carniolans vs. Italians....70, 442, 756
Carrying out young bees.... 361
Casing honey....343, 499
Catalpa honey.... 152
Catnip and catnip honey....41, 44
Catnip and Rocky Mountain bee-plant seed.... 151
Cellar wintering of bees....26, 216, 294, 381, 552, 683, 739.... 795
Chaff hives....538, 569
Chapman honey-plant.... 772
Chayote as a honey-plant....180, 260
Chicago-Northwestern Bee-Keepers' Association 28, 787.... 840
Chickens as drone-catchers....360, 473
Chilled brood....267, 794
Chilled queens.... 185
Christmas greenery.... 4
Chunk honey....76, 187, 248, 425, 503
Cider and bees.... 457
Clarifying honey.... 729
Cleaning bees from extracting combs.... 355
Cleaning pollen out of combs.... 200
Cleaning up after the men-folk bee-keepers.... 790
Cleansing beeswax....330, 405, 790
Cleome integrifolia....693, 694
Clipping queens....152, 216, 265, 343, 346, 357, 380, 394, 409, 538, 586, 633, 698, 809.... 858
Clips a leg....564, 649
Closed-end frames....224, 676, 760
Clover and trees for bees.... 586
Cockleburr....106, 188
Colds, coughs, and chapped hands.... 25
Colonies for family of two.... 426
Colony died with plenty of honey.... 91
Colorado as a honey State.... 761
Colorado bee-keepers manufacturing their own supplies.... 88
Color of honey....26, 41, 71, 153, 293
Color of wax.... 791
Colors and odors—attractions of.... 722
"Columbus" or tin-foil base comb foundation.... 771
Comb-building....442, 559, 713
Comb foundation....42, 150
Comb-frames and their spacing.... 759
Comb honey....42, 228, 233, 390, 439, 443, 478, 579, 581.... 877
Comb-honey hive and management....394, 505
Comb honey in candy....788, 843
Comb-honey lies.... 722
Comb-honey super capacity.... 774
Comb-leveler....438, 505
Combs—care of unoccupied.... 339
Combs for extracting—new.... 186
Combs of honey from a dead colony....330, 394
Comb vs. extracted honey.. 38, 102, 165, 198, 214, 233, 260, 310.... 501
Commercial organization for the Western Slope 166
Competition—failing....131, 211
Complexion lotion.... 585
Confectionery paste.... 775
Consecutive polygamy.... 811
Contracting or uniting colonies—which?.... 265
"Conumberfum"—an apiarian.... 52
Convention dates—bee-keepers'.... 851
Convention men for conventions—experienced. 869

CONVENTION REPORTS—
California.... 84
Chicago-Northwestern....52, 55, 137, 217
Colorado....7, 22, 37, 68, 86, 103, 120, 134, 166, 181
Elgin Co., Ontario.... 374
Fillmore Co., Minn.... 121
Hamilton Co., Ohio.... 712
Illinois....197, 228, 769
Michigan....486, 500
National....452, 547, 691, 708 805, 822, 839, 853, 856.... 873
Nebraska.... 89
New York....52, 439, 454, 470
Northern Michigan.... 357
North Texas.... 344
Onondaga Co., N. Y....52, 390, 407, 423
Ontario....244, 262, 278, 293, 309
Pennsylvania....344, 854
South Dakota.... 84
Southwest Texas....774, 792
Southwestern Ohio and Hamilton Co., Ohio.... 535
Texas....566, 582, 599, 614, 630, 645, 664, 680
Vermont.... 320
Western Illinois....388, 725
Worcester Co., Mass.... 121

Co-operation among bee-keepers....8, 58, 325
Co-operative factory for bee-keepers.... 281
Cork for winter packing—ground....341, 456
Corn syrup for spring feeding.... 345
Cottonwood and bay-tree.... 361
Covering over sections.... 840
Crimson and alsike clover.... 761
Criss-cross combs in brood-chamber.... 250
Critters, bees, honey and catclaw.... 276
Cucumber as a honey-plant.... 746
Cutting candied honey with a wire.... 274
Cyprio-Carniolans.... 415

Dadants and French bee-keeping.... 596
Daily think (poetry).... 459
Danzenbaker hives.... 569
Danzenbaker super.... 291
Dead brood and bees....106, 151

DEATH NOTICES—
Graham, Wm. R.... 5
Harrison, Mrs. L.... 455
Huffman, E. B.... 4

Difference between young and old bees.... 746
Discouragements of bee-keepers.... 291
Diseased brood....488, 531
Diseases of bees.... 440
Disposition of the bee.... 51
Distance bees work profitably.... 174
Distance below brood-frames.... 216
Disturbance of bees in winter.... 150
Dividing colonies....361, 474, 488, 587, 667
Double-tier cases.... 249
Doubling up colonies....38, 617
Drawing conclusions hastily in bee-keeping.... 755
Drawn-out foundation in cold weather.... 9
Driven swarms.... 343
Drone-cells into queen-cells—changing.... 407
Drone-comb vs. worker-comb....35, 726, 872
Drone eggs—queens laying.... 266
Drone-excluders.... 231
Drone-laying queen....45, 426, 588, 665
Drones....89, 99, 137, 189, 211, 228, 344, 371, 407, 410, 442, 453, 488, 569, 611, 668.... 808
Drones and burr-combs.... 552
Drone-traps.... 229
Drumming better than brushing for forced swarms.... 397
Dry time in Southern California.... 84

Educating the public on honey.... 729
Egg-hatching humbug on a colony of bees.... 43
Eggs from brood-chamber to super—carrying.... 263
Eight-frame hives.... 226
Eight-frame super on a 10-frame hive.... 360
Eight frame vs. the 10-frame hive.... 649
Empty combs....105, 456
Enemies of bees.... 165
English as she is spoke.... 819
Entrance contractor.... 520
Entrance feeding.... 266
Entrance guards.... 345
Entrance regulator.... 75
Escort bees.... 521
Essential qualities of a successful bee-keeper.. 566
Essentials to bee-inspectorship.... 266
Eucalyptus honey.... 105
Eucalyptus....29, 422, 521
Extracting honey at fairs.... 144
Experiences of a foul-brood inspector.... 146
Experience with bees...90, 105, 156, 171, 238, 253, 285, 301, 360, 361, 382, 392, 483, 524.... 648
Experiments with honey-plants.... 441
Explanation from W. Z. Hutchinson.... 740
Extracted honey....68, 378, 630, 666, 714, 779
Extracted vs. comb honey....357, 776
Extracting-combs....90, 263, 313, 358, 394, 649, 869
Extracting honey....169, 341, 376, 483, 750
Extracting supers....565, 714, 746, 841
Extra stories under the colony.... 795
Eyes of bees.... 294
Eyes of insects.... 839

Farm bee-keeping ... 521
Farmer as an advertiser ... 212
Fastening comb foundation in sections ... 313
Feeders ... 426, 461, 568, 588, 651
Feeding back extracted honey ... 669
Feeding bees ... 22, 27, 53, 70, 120, 126, 139, 183, 185, 201, 215, 232, 249, 250, 251, 234, 266, 280, 293, 357, 365, 393, 461, 662, 713, 730, 810, 842, 858 ... 885
Feeding glucose ... 91
Feeding queens and drones ... 791
Fertilizing queens in baby nuclei ... 580
Filling honey-cans too full ... 415
Finding and hiving a swarm ... 747
Finding queens ... 343, 649
Fixed frame ... 292
Flat-irons smooth—beeswax to make ... 392
Flavor of honey ... 153, 267, 293
Flies, not drones ... 203
Flight of bees ... 286, 595, 601, 739, 742, 824
Floor polish ... 632
Florida orange-blossom honey ... 483
Fly or drone gathering pollen ... 262
Food frauds and food officials ... 881
Food value of honey ... 403
Foote's machine for folding sections ... 694
Forced or shaken swarms ... 279
Foreign bee-keepers' societies ... 836
Formaldehyde for bee-diseases ... 406, 419, 455
Formalin for disinfecting extracted honey ... 493
Formalin for treatment of foul brood ... 100, 115, 249
Forming nuclei ... 42
Foul brood ... 8, 23, 64, 100, 106, 115, 116, 132, 168, 179, 230, 232, 243, 266, 297, 355, 358, 371, 414, 428, 454, 456, 457, 486, 572, 583, 595, 602, 733, 782 ... 803
Foul brood inspections ... 7, 150
Foul-brood law ... 100
Foul-broody apiaries—announcing ... 457
Foul-broody hives ... 26
Foul-broody honey ... 585
Foundation ... 185, 375, 377, 406, 794, 801
Foundation splints ... 568
Fourth of July at Dr. Miller's ... 484
Frame for extracted honey—size of ... 857
Frames ... 10, 85, 213, 225, 232, 249, 279, 300, 376, 468, 469, 483, 487, 549, 614 ... 693
Frames hung crosswise vs. lengthwise ... 468
Frame spacing—proper distance for ... 517
Freght-rate on bees ... 195
Fretful cares and fears (poem) ... 636
Fruit-bloom—heavy ... 413
Full sheets of foundation ... 106, 229
Full sheets or starters for swarms ... 280
Fumigating an apiary ... 110
Fumigating honey ... 391
Furniture polish ... 745

Getting bees off extracting-combs ... 487
Getting bees out of high trees ... 302, 472
Getting bees out of supers ... 229
Getting combs built to the bottom-bars ... 313
Getting into bee-keeping again ... 266
Getting started with bees ... 61, 266
Getting the honey out of cappings ... 810
Gloves for women bee-keepers ... 280
Glucose ... 340, 478, 662, 710
Glucose honey story ... 259
Glucose sugars ... 21
Golden Italians and brown bees ... 493
Good season for honey ... 43
Gorged honey ... 72
Grading honey ... 35, 122, 135, 172, 181, 265, 421, 498, 503 ... 782
Grand Canyon ... 122
Granulated honey ... 662, 875
Granulated honey—paper packages for ... 376
Granulation of honey ... 55, 56, 150, 169, 209, 232
Growing basswood and buckwheat ... 314
Guards or sentinels of the hive ... 72

Hand-holes or cleats on supers ... 629
Hanging out ... 666
Hard-working sister in Oregon ... 40
Hasty (Mr.) and the sisters ... 345
Hasty's ballads and Texas "critters" ... 73
Hatching eggs of bees ... 41
Hatching eggs over bees ... 45, 164, 184, 300, 361, 455, 473, 537 ... 760
Hauling home honey for extracting ... 232

Head of a bee—strength of ... 295
Heartsease ... 617
Heddon plan of preventing afterswarms ... 681
Help medium rather than weakest colonies ... 386
Hill's device—benefit of ... 263
Hive-covers ... 115, 120, 151, 278, 301, 351
Hive-covers, frames, etc.—making ... 110
Hive-entrance closed for moving ... 278
Hive-entrances covered with snow ... 70
Hive-roofs ... 89
Hives ... 39, 70, 71, 89, 113, 120, 170, 184, 185, 214, 226, 244, 263, 266, 278, 291, 296, 317, 333, 343, 344, 379, 381, 389, 390, 444, 598 ... 778
Hives painted inside and outside ... 42
Hive-shed—individual ... 473
Hive shirt ... 242
Hives where bees died ... 282
Hive-tool ... 330
Hiving swarms ... 364
Hiving swarms on combs where bees died ... 394
Hoffman frames ... 707
Hoffman frames vs. closed-end ... 215
Holding honey over a season or two ... 297
Holy Land bees ... 71, 151, 458
Home-made bee-supplies ... 283, 344, 381, 390, 412, 444
Home market for honey ... 223, 237, 514, 534, 570
Honey in England—prices of ... 739
Hop honey ... 361
Honey—a bit of (poem) ... 440
Honey absorb water naturally?—does ... 485
Honey and almond cream ... 505
Honey and beeswax—demand for ... 426
Honey and bees—some facts about ... 581
Honey and pollen for wintering—proportions of ... 683
Honey and rheumatism ... 69
Honey and sugar chemically considered ... 745, 793
Honey-and-water problem ... 277
Honey as cane-sugar already digested ... 71
Honey attracting water ... 30, 84
Honey-barrels ... 8
Honey-brand ... 419
Honey-cakes—recipe for ... 184, 472
Honey-cans ... 8
Honey-cookies ... 376 695, 809

Honey cosmetic ... 615
Honey-crop—reporting the ... 285
Honey crops of 1903 and 1904 ... 60, 579, 627
Honey—daily use of ... 339
Honey-dealers—association and individual ... 252
Honey—deliquescent powers of ... 261
Honey-dew ... 294, 537
Honey exchange committee—report of ... 263
Honey exhibits at fairs ... 739
Honey-house—ant-proof ... 298
Honey for chapped skin ... 264
Honey for health and beauty ... 345
Honey from foul-broody colonies ... 745
Honey from foul-broody hive ... 250
Honey from houses ... 30
Honey granulating in bottles and hives ... 345, 872
Honey in a house ... 324
Honey in barrels ... 263
Honey in boarding-houses ... 649
Honey in brown bread ... 265
Honey in cooking—value of ... 488, 615
Honey in sections vs. chunk honey ... 503
Honey-knife ... 495
Honey leaflets—value of ... 699
Honey leaking from glass jars ... 59
Honey-muffins—French ... 872
Honey of the backwood's bee-keeper ... 19
Honey-packages—paper ... 259
Honey-packages—overweight ... 83
Honey-plants ... 19
Honey quotations in the bee-papers ... 569, 647
Honey—some big crops of ... 35
Honey stored by a foul-broody colony ... 569
Honey-tank ... 204
Honey that seems to be yeasty ... 375
Honey the best food ... 21
Honey-thief ... 371
Honey turning to wax ... 42
Honey-vinegar ... 225, 227, 294, 477, 611
Honey?—what is ... 851
Honey without bees ... 474
Hot vs. cold water for honey-knives ... 707
House-apiary—passing of ... 274
Hybrids or Italians—which? ... 484

Illinois bee-keepers' law ... 58
Illinois state fair apiarian display ... 20
Imports and exports of bee-products ... 249
Improved queens—improved bee-keeping ... 131
Increase—getting ... 101, 104, 118, 123, 170, 215, 249, 267 ... 339, 346, 361, 642
India—bees of ... 274
Indian turnip ... 652
Injuring the honey market ... 726
In love with one's work ... 612
Insects and comb honey ... 795
Inspection of bees and the law ... 121
Inspector of apiaries—Notes of an ... 485
Inspectors' association ... 52
Inventors of beedom—The would-be ... 99
Inverted sugars ... 661
Introducing new blood ... 554
Introducing queen-cells ... 185
Introducing queens ... 44, 71, 104, 183, 197, 229, 312, 328, 329, 331, 343, 361, 413, 443, 474, 521, 570, 590, 634, 650, 695, 714, 734, 746, 809 ... 857
Iowa sister's report ... 280
Ironweed ... 617
Italian bees and foul brood in England ... 829
Italianizing bees ... 57, 603, 825
Italians vs. blacks ... 387
Japanese buckwheat ... 798
Joblots of honey ... 425
Jouncing bees ... 188
July (poem) ... 467

Keeping ants out of hives ... 553
Keeping bees in a garret ... 567
Keeping bees near the blossoms ... 5
Keeping bees on a flat roof ... 146
Keeping bees on shares ... 9
Keeping comb honey from candying ... 229
Keeping down increase ... 152
Keeping honey indefinitely ... 14
Keeping honey in open barrels ... 200
Keeping mice out of hives in the cellar ... 667
"Keep more bees" ... 247, 326
Killing the bees to get the honey ... 634
Kinds of bees ... 643, 669, 729
Kinetoscope at bee-conventions ... 835
King-birds ... 551, 604, 622, 635, 682, 716, 727

Lady bee-keepers and tobacco-smoking ... 200
Langstroth frame—some expert opinion on ... 25
Law governing bees and bee-keepers ... 470
Laying-workers ... 249, 313, 667, 698
Leather loops for carrying tools ... 473
Lectures on bee-keeping at farmers' institutes ... 35
Lewis Co.—the G. B. ... 117
License for selling honey ... 226
Life of bees ... 19, 86, 710
Light vs. dark honey in England ... 387
Light-weight sections ... 361
Linden or basswood—varieties of the ... 297, 300
Liquefying honey ... 341
Loafing bees ... 441
Local associations ... 148
Locality ... 423, 780
Locating bees near the bloom ... 150
Long-ideal hive ... 249
Long-tongued bees and their work ... 217, 698
Loss of bees ... 123, 169, 250, 259, 268, 281, 291, 308, 360, 376, 393, 456 ... 489
Lost colonies of bees—replacing ... 312
Lullaby—a (poem) ... 769

Making a place for a queen ... 554
Making frames, hives and supers ... 170, 277, 285, 379
Management for comb honey ... 123, 518
Management in swarming ... 154, 186, 552
Management of bees ... 507
Managing out-apiaries ... 295
Manicure scissors for clipping queens' wings ... 265
Manufactured comb honey ... 195, 355, 451, 563, 773, 822, 823 ... 882
Marketing honey ... 78, 146, 153, 168, 187, 249, 296, 341, 375, 434, 470, 478, 509, 546, 553, 636, 839 ... 875
Market quotations ... 563
Marshfield Mfg. Co. ... 836
Marshmallows root with honey—paste of ... 682
Mason bees ... 457
Mating of queens ... 137, 265, 275, 317, 373, 374, 410 552, 554, 569, 586, 612 ... 645
Matrimonial troubles—bees cause ... 409
Melted wax comb foundation press ... 825

Melting honey in the comb ... 343
Melting old combs into beeswax ... 567
Mesquite ... 71
Mice in the hives ... 37, 251
Milk and honey farm ... 116
Milk-crackers and honey ... 632
Milk for bee-stings ... 779
Milkweed and bees ... 474, 556, 872
Miller brood-frames ... 42, 173
Minnesota State Fair and premiums ... 744
Mixing varieties of honey ... 568
Moisture in honey ... 294
Moldy combs ... 346, 376
Moles or mice dead at the hive-entrance ... 251
Money in bees—no ... 163
More colonies or more manipulation—which? 99, 310
Moth-balls ... 329
Motherwort ... 536
Moths don't come from butterflies ... 77, 89
Moths in the hive ... 617
Movable-comb hive ... 343
Moving bees ... 9, 90, 91, 122, 170, 184, 185, 219, 232, 235, 245, 263, 730, 842 ... 862

Name of the honey-bee—correct ... 165
National association ... 18, 20, 26, 83, 120, 141, 212, 243, 419, 467, 469, 508, 532, 612, 726, 739 ... 819
National association and advertising honey ... 467, 469
Natural or artificial increase ... 599
Natural swarms ... 456
Neatness in the apiary ... 831
Nebraska State fair apiarian exhibit ... 467
Nectar—digested ... 21
Nectar secretion—freaks in ... 693
Newspaper enterprise—and surprise ... 676
New York bee-disease ... 291
Nitrogen bacteria ... 290
No-drip strips ... 509
Noisy colony ... 266
Nomination and election of national candidates 562, 692, 724, 772, 776, 787, 827 ... 835
Non-swarming ... 424, 730
Not all in hives—more in the man ... 389
Nougat candy ... 168
Nuclei ... 232, 586, 587
Nucleus method of increase ... 170, 267
Number of frames for comb honey ... 549

Observatory hives ... 53, 121, 184, 359, 473, 587
Officers of the Texas association ... 644
Ohio foul brood bill ... 164, 292
One of the younger sisters ... 169
Only one (poetry) ... 570
Open-air feeding ... 70
Orange honey ... 456 483, 659
Ordering queens ... 183
Out apiaries ... 245, 279, 295, 776
Outdoor wintering ... 151, 316, 872
Out in the fields (poem) ... 377
Overstocking ... 420
Ownership of honey in bee-trees ... 122
Oxide of zinc in white lead ... 297
Oyster packages for holding honey ... 170

Pa and ma and the bees (poem) ... 308
Packing bees for winter ... 38
Packing-cases for bees ... 311
Packing pollen ... 295
Page & Lyon Mfg. Co. ... 820
Paper packages for granulated honey ... 376
Paraffin-comb-glucose story ... 428
Paraguay as a bee-country ... 83
Paste for labeling tin and wood ... 658
Paste for the hands ... 760
Pastoral occupation ... 72
Patents among bee-keepers ... 307, 426
Peculiar people—some ... 436
Peddling out wives ... 40
Peiro's propolis porous plaster ... 445
Pennsylvania association ... 516
Perforated separators ... 39
Perforated zinc and comb honey ... 774
Performance before prettiness ... 51
Pest among bees—deadly new ... 397
Phacelia tanacetifolia ... 371, 659
Photographs of things apiarian ... 483
Pickled brood ... 218, 420, 457, 489, 507, 808
Place to keep honey—proper ... 724
Placing hives ... 185
Plain vs. slotted sections ... 790
Planting for honey ... 152
Planting of trees and conservation of forests ... 87, 551
Plant-introduction garden ... 340
Play-spell of young bees ... 442
Poisonous honey ... 420
Pollen ... 200, 262, 328, 580, 683, 713
Pollen and foul brood ... 29, 169
Pollen-bound combs ... 122
Pollen substitutes ... 214
Popular prescriptions partly punctured ... 505
Porticoes on hives ... 313
Position of hives ... 266
Postal cards for bee-keepers ... 755
Pounds of honey for a pound of beeswax ... 216
Preparation for swarming ... 558
Press and manufactured comb honey ... 451
Pressing wax from combs ... 200
Preventing increase ... 27, 279, 281, 683
Preventing leaking in honey-jars ... 200
Preventing robbing ... 27
Prevention of afterswarms ... 435
Prevention of swarming ... 37, 70, 150, 151, 185, 251, 328, 424, 499, 538, 776 ... 811
Price of honey ... 522
Prices of extracted and comb honey ... 139
Prime swarm settling low ... 51
Priority of location ... 297, 327, 375, 425, 632
Producing comb honey ... 135, 390, 423, 698
Producing extracted honey ... 729, 792
Producer's name and address on honey ... 225
Profit and loss in keeping bees ... 617
Programs for bee-conventions ... 835
Profits in bee-culture (poem) ... 424
Propolis ... 216, 461, 568, 602, 765, 809
Propolized cloth for bee-gloves ... 366, 473
Protection for bee-keepers ... 182
Public—instructing the ... 603, 723
Pure food laws needed ... 643, 64
Pure honey from adulterated—distinguishing ... 2
Pure honey law ...
Purple-colored honey ... 18
Putting on supers ... 233, 266, 361, 410, 426, 488

Queen and her retinue ... 457, 537, 582, 596
Queen-bee—making of ... 54

Queen-cages ... 71
Queen-cell opening before receiving the egg—size of ... 262
Queen-cell cups ... 313
Queen-cells ... 457, 569, 594
Queen-clipping device ... 312
Queen-excluders ... 186, 231, 249, 438, 441, 501, 565, 586, 631, 712 ... 729
Queen-excluders and extracted honey ... 105
Queen-excluding honey-boards—use of ... 340, 410, 566
Queen-guard ... 473
Queen-hens—rearing ... 281
Queen-larvæ producing worker-bees ... 200
Queen laying on outside of combs ... 421
Queenless colonies ... 360, 441, 443, 488, 507, 587, 667, 713 ... 794
Queen-right colony ... 343
Queen-rearing ... 106, 115, 170, 184, 220, 249, 281, 313, 314, 349, 356, 407, 426, 458, 534, 550, 633, 663, 808 ... 837
Queens ... 67, 91, 106, 108, 165, 185, 199, 250, 297, 343, 345, 355, 373, 374, 410, 421, 455, 488, 506, 515, 522, 537, 554, 579, 580, 587, 590, 601, 634, 642, 649, 650, 668, 692, 714, 776, 791, 798, 807, 808, 810 ... 857
Queens and women-folk ... 760
Queen's duty to lay drone-eggs ... 211
Queen-traps ... 683

Races and sizes of bees ... 269, 408, 872
Radium for foul brood ... 371, 428
Rearing brood ... 123
Rearing queens early ... 10, 313
Recording hive-matters ... 184
Red rose and the honey-bee (poem) ... 580
Reducing the number of colonies ... 537
Re-fertilization of queens ... 151
Refining sugar ... 662
Re-granulation of honey ... 200
Reitsche comb foundation press ... 742
Reliquefying honey ... 200, 262, 442, 473
Removing supers before all sections are sealed 439
Rendering beeswax ... 262, 298, 312, 343, 640
Reporting the honey crop ... 139
Requeening colonies ... 228, 361, 376, 410, 587, 729, 858
Returning swarms and cutting queen-cells ... 139
Reversing combs ... 410
Rheumatism cured by bee-stings ... 660, 716, 822
Rheumatism—sulphur and honey for ... 487
Ripening honey ... 487
Rival of the bee ... 3
Robber-bees ... 89, 575
Robber-fly or bee-killer ... 698
Robber-guard and entrance-contractor ... 519
Robbing—method of treating ... 839
Rock-a-by-baby (poem) ... 494
Rockefeller and the glucose business ... 376
Rocky Mountain bee-plant ... 598, 713
Roller-foundation machine ... 761
Rotten brood developing into foul brood ... 824
Running for increase of bees and surplus honey 825

Sainfoin or esparcet as a honey-plant ... 740, 790, 813, 846 ... 857
Samples by mail ... 531
Sampling of honey—wholesale ... 675
Sandwiches—honey and pecan ... 585
Sandwich Island report ... 281
Scale-lice and maples ... 474
Scant-weight sections ... 297
Scientists and formaldehyde ... 521
Scouts preceding the swarm ... 343
Scraper for scraping sections ... 759
Scraping and grating section honey ... 265
Scraping the refuse from cakes of beeswax ... 691
Secretary's services—recognition of ... 219
Sectional hives ... 70
Sectionless supers of honey ... 266
Sections ... 26, 41, 52, 182, 221, 223, 300, 301, 377, 385, 387, 454, 510, 552, 595, 686, 707, 749 ... 787
Sections—four-piece vs. one-piece ... 3, 99
Section—the standard ... 182
Section vs. chunk honey ... 503
Self-spacing brood-frames ... 104
Selling extracted honey by samples ... 379
Selling honey on commission ... 739, 771
Separating propolis from beeswax ... 262
Separators ... 10, 76, 90, 198, 262, 335, 457, 522, 552
Separators or no separators ... 37, 150
Shading hives ... 329
Shaking swarms ... 858
Shipping bees ... 216, 219
Shipping-cases ... 151, 451, 857
Shipping comb honey ... 307
Shook swarming and comb honey ... 139
Shook swarms ... 35, 411, 428, 439, 450, 474, 493, 502, 586
Sick bees ... 151
Single-tier vs. double-tier cases ... 181
Sister bee-keepers in South Africa ... 149
Sisterhood—a defense of ... 267
Sisters and the national ... 9
Size of extractor for 50 colonies ... 394
Size of hives and supers ... 91, 724
Sizing up our advantages ... 281
Skunks in the apiary—trapping ... 415
Slaughtering roadside trees ... 25
Slotted sections ... 858
Slumgum for rheumatism ... 211
Small hives and large colonies ... 707
Smoke in handling bees—the use of ... 766
Smoker bellows with canvas—mending ... 215
Smokers ... 358
Smoking bees ... 25, 346, 757, 841, 870
Smoking habit among bee-keepers ... 40
Smoky-looking honey ... 70
Snakes and bees ... 600
Sneezeweed ... 652
Sorghum molasses for stimulative feeding ... 251
Sour honey in the brood-chamber ... 137
Southerner's sojourn in New York ... 539
Sowing sweet clover seed ... 10, 841
Spacers—metallic ... 282
Spacing frames ... 10, 170, 200, 416
Specialty vs. mixed bee-keeping ... 501
Splints for foundation ... 42, 215
Spraying fruit-trees ... 375
Spreading brood ... 70
Spring care of bees ... 345, 357
Spring feeding ... 39, 106, 214, 266, 345, 346, 357
Stinger—peculiar ... 732
Stamp—N. B.-K. A ... 4
Starting in the bee-business ... 871
Sticking comb foundation with paste ... 376
Sticks instead of wire for frames ... 330, 410
Stimulative feeding ... 181, 185, 232, 251
Stores used in winter ... 251
Storing honey ... 486, 810
Straining wax ... 344
Strains of bees in the United States—different ... 9
Strengthening colonies ... 123
Stung by a queen-bee ... 665
Suabian honigbrod ... 872
Succeeding in the bee-business ... 226
Successes and failures ... 264
Successful management of out-apiaries ... 774
Success in bee-keeping—guide-posts to ... 291
Sucrose ... 661
Sugar and honey ... 661
Sugar candy ... 53
Sugar-honey in Hawaiian Islands ... 41
Sugar syrup for winter stores ... 858
Sugar—difference in ... 150
Sugar vs. honey for bees ... 803
Sulphur for moths and other vermin ... 395, 521
Sulphur to protect empty combs ... 351
Superseded queen—disposing of ... 169
Superseding queens ... 312, 552, 643
Supers—giving ... 200
Supers—handling ... 296
Supers—position on hives ... 357
Supplies—shall bee-keepers buy or make them? 377
Surplus honey ... 674, 726, 825
Surplus-honey source ... 549
Swarm indicator ... 295 393
Swarming ... 39, 72, 79, 108, 110, 154, 169, 183, 186, 248, 251, 297, 328, 358, 387, 397, 409, 412, 419, 426, 428, 439, 442, 443, 473, 474, 488, 498, 506, 507, 552, 565, 572, 585, 587, 618, 621, 665, 666, 729 ... 807
Swarming and non-swarming queens ... 26
Swarming bees locating a home ... 13
Swarming management ... 6
Swarm on a hat ... 77
Swarms—brushed ... 185
Swarms carrying foul brood ... 456
Swarms—dealing with a tangle of ... 281
Swarms deserting ... 124
Swarms—forced or shaken ... 279, 330
Swarms going back ... 538
Swarms uniting ... 36
Sweet clover ... 108, 115, 172, 331, 415, 486, 749
Sweet clover bacteria for alfalfa ... 131
Sweet clover honey ... 249
Sweet clover seed ... 8, 228
Sycamore maple ... 412
Symbiosus ... 533

Table—a nailing ... 494
Taking off comb honey ... 228
Talking bees on city streets ... 265
Tartaric acid for preventing granulation of honey ... 232
Teaching bees to steal ... 339, 441
Temperature for handling brood ... 282
Tennessee—best hive for ... 857
Testing beeswax ... 185
Testing boiled honey for bee-candy ... 184
Texas as a bee-country ... 842
Thick combs for extracting ... 547
Thick top-bar staple-spaced frames ... 442
Thinning honey ... 330
Thoroughness—perseverance and specialty ... 494
Tiering up supers ... 554
Tin-can prices canceled ... 4
Tin-foil base comb foundation ... 857
Tooth-paste ... 728
Top-bars ... 265, 559, 580
Top-bars—trowel for trimming ... 76
Topics for bee-papers—appropriate ... 723
Trade-marks—honey ... 646
Tramp bee-keepers ... 263
Transferring bees ... 201, 215, 250, 251, 267, 282, 329, 349, 377, 410, 446, 488, 552 ... 825
Transferring larvæ ... 221
Transmission of traits in bees ... 99
"T" supers ... 224, 313, 358, 426, 474, 810, 824
T super vs. the section-holder super ... 297
T tins ... 824
T tin supports ... 297
Trouble—trying to avoid ... 266
Tupelo gum ... 698
Two swarms in one hive ... 505

Uintah reservation and bees ... 830
Uncapping and returning drone-brood ... 857
Uncapping honey ... 358, 495, 596, 517, 564
Unfinished sections ... 37, 39, 251, 297, 363, 442, 502, 600, 774 ... 794
Uniform size of sections ... 787
Uniting colonies ... 106, 158, 186, 233, 410, 586, 730
Unripe honey—extracting and marketing ... 131
Unripeness of honey ... 568
Untested queen ... 488
Using honey to put up fruit ... 343

Value of honey in cooking ... 488
Vaseline to prevent propolis ... 248
Ventilation in the cellar ... 83, 123, 294
Ventilation of hives ... 12, 251, 842
Vetch ... 713
Veterans read the newspapers ... 52
Vicious bees ... 346
Vinegar made from foul-broody honey ... 569
Virginia as a honey State ... 600
Virgin queens and afterswarms ... 707
Visiting apiaries ... 84
Vitality of young brood ... 571
Volume forty-four begins ... 3
V shaped hive ... 426

Washing honey from the cappings ... 477
Water capacity of honey ... 376
Water-tanks for bee-houses—four-corner ... 171
Wax—cleaning ... 330
Wax-extractor—a centrifugal ... 818
Wax-presses and wax-rendering ... 60
Wax-press—the German steam ... 237
Wax-rendering experiences ... 104
Wax-worms and spiders ... 185
Weak colonies in the spring ... 364
Weight of honey ... 4, 435
Western honey-producers' association ... 181
We thank thee (poem) ... 554
What caused the bees to die? ... 267
What caused the queen's death? ... 345
White clover ... 44, 197, 536
White clover honey in barrels ... 263
White's Class Advertising Co ... 356
Why do bees stand more cold out-of-doors? ... 674
Wide frame vs. T super ... 505
Wife of the bee-keeping brother ... 425
Wind the bees' worst enemy ... 130
Winter-cases as hive-covers ... 379
Winter confinement ... 281, 315, 421, 425, 491, 505, 620
Wintering bees ... 14, 26, 29, 39, 76, 104, 120, 151, 154, 168, 183, 184, 185, 216, 232, 237, 264, 282, 297, 313, 346, 365, 371, 379, 381, 382, 440, 453, 489, 552, 569, 587, 602, 617, 619, 707, 713, 714, 777, 794, 819, 821, 852, 855 ... 872
Winter experience ... 78
Winter repository above ground ... 694
Winter packing ... 343
Winter passages ... 683
Winter stores ... 729, 859, 858
Wired comb from starters ... 77
Wiring frames ... 51, 91, 137, 157, 294, 503, 553, 587, 709, 771, 810, 811 ... 858
Wives as honey salesladies ... 632
Woman—her position and ways ... 311
Women as bee-keepers ... 584
Women as rural mail-carriers ... 90
Women at bee-conventions ... 793
Women members of the National ... 856
Wood separators ... 41
Wood splints instead of wires ... 457
Worker-bee—life of the ... 773
Worker-combs from starters ... 104
Working off second-grade honey ... 215
Work-table—a comfortable ... 585

Yellow jacket ... 538
Yellow jacket sting compared with bee-sting ... 830
Yellow matter at hive-entrance ... 554
Yellow sweet clover ... 441, 536
Yellow sweet clover seed ... 600
Yield of honey?—what is a good ... 522
Yon Yonson thinks—what ... 430

Zinc excluders—plain ... 313

ILLUSTRATIONS.

Acklin, Ethel ... 753
Acklin, H. G ... 753
Acklin, Mrs. H. G ... 753
Adelsbach, P. F ... 737
Agricultural building World's Fair, St. Louis ... 705
Aikin, R. C ... 667
Antes (Mrs,) and part of her apiary ... 682
Apiarian display at Illinois State Fair ... 17
Apiarian display of J. J. Measer ... 97
Apiarian exhibit of F. L. Grant ... 609
Apiary in Irish village garden ... 679

APIARY OF—

Anderson, B. F ... 737
Aspinwall, L. A ... 481
Bingham, T. F ... 497
Boardman, H. R ... 696
Bowles, W. A ... 449
Carr, H. M ... 33
Christensen, Hans ... 33
Cilley, C. W ... 193
Culvey, J. W ... 161
Duff, Peter N ... 465
Forehand, W. J ... 321
Free, W. J ... 385
Freeman, A. J ... 625
Gill, M. A ... 177
Haag, J. S ... 385
Highbarger, L ... 49
Hinderer, Frank ... 465
Johnson, Silas ... 561
Kannenberg, C. F ... 321
Koehler, Louis C ... 209
Lyman, W. C ... 1
McEvoy, Wm ... 305
Macklin, Chas. G ... 561
Nydegger, John ... 721
Opfer, A. H ... 193
Prior, Philip ... 625
Reed, George A ... 465
Sager, Chas. W ... 385
Sauer, John A ... 737
Schoon, John G ... 96
Seward, Geo. L ... 49
Smale & Co., E. J ... 841
Steger, Theodore ... 33
Strittmatter, F. J ... 273
Strong, J. L ... 449
Taylor, R. L ... 497
Trittenbach, Edwin ... 193
Wahl, L. F ... 97
Welch, T. R. G ... 625
York, Anderson ... 193

Bacon, G. E ... 849
Becker, Chas ... 229, 321
Bee-supply store C. M. Scott & Co. 363
Bee-tent ... 530
Bee-wintering house ... 696
Bingham, T. F ... 497
Blair, L. G ... 721
Blatt's bee-house in Switzerland ... 721
Blue-gum—blossoms of ... 417
Bohrer, Dr. G ... 645

Brodbeck, Geo. W. 657
Brown, F. E. 865

Catclaw of Texas 273
Cherry-trees in bloom 422
Chicago-Northwesten Convention. 129
Chrysler, W. A. 245
Comb-leveler for sections 438
Dadant, C. P. 657
Dittmer, Gus 789
Doolittle, G. M. 663

Eaton, Dr. E. N. 865
Edwards, O. D. 689
Elwood, P. H. 663
Eucalyptus 417
Extracting-room of L. C. Koehler. 212
Foote (A. F.) and section-press 689
France, N. E. 657

Gould (Wm. R.) and a swarm 688
Graham, Wm. R. 5

Hafer, Adam 833
Hambaugh, J. M. 661
Harris, J. U. 657, 865
Harrison, Mrs. L. 433
Hatch, C. A. 661
Hiving a swarm 337
Home of J. E. Crane 545
Honey-house and home, R. C. Aikin 49
Home apiary of H. G. Acklin 753
" " J. B. Hall 289
" " George Honess 97
" " H. G. Sibbald 257
Hutchinson, W. Z. 667, 865
Hyde, H. H. 641

Kalsched, Henry 833

Langstroth, Rev. L. L. 673
Laws, W. H. 641
Lewis, Geo. C. 113
Lewis (G. B.) Co.'s factory views, 112, 116, 117, 118, 119, 120, 849
Linden or basswood tree in bloom. 769
Long combs in side of H. Gilbert's house 321
McEvoy, Wm. 667
Marks, W. F. 663
Marshfield Mfg. Co.'s factory 833
Miller, Dr. C. C. 481, 661
Mohr, Mike D. and apiary 353
Morehouse, H. C. 689

Observatory hive 359
Office, factory and warehouse of Gus Dittmer 785
Out-apiary of H. G. Acklin 801
" R. C. Aikin 481
" Gus Dittmer 785
" E. D. Ochsner 562
Page & Lyon Mfg. Co.'s plant. 817, 820
Parts of bee 295, 565
Pryal, W. A.'s home 369

Queen-cells 737, 798
Queen-rearing apiary H.G.Quirin. 593

Rietsche press 743
Robber-guard and winter-entrance contractor 519
Root, Ernest R. 865

Schmidt, R. H 849
Scholl, Louis H 577, 641
Scott, C. M. 353
Secor, Eugene 769
Selser, W. A. 665
Sheboygan Fruit-Box Co.'s plant. 849
Smith, J. Q. 228
Smith, Mr. and Mrs. S. B. 273
Stone, James A. 229
Swarm returning to old stand 273

Terens, J. H. 721
Theilmann, C. 401
Titoff, Abram 865
Toepperwein, Udo 665
Tucker, J. W. 389

Uncapping-box 513

Weber, C. H. W. 81
Whitcomb, E. 667
White, Frank B. 356
White, W. H. 641
Wilson, Emma M. 481
Wiring frames 503

Zielke, E. and apiary 353

SUBJECTS.

Abbott, Emerson T. 196
Achard, Charles B. 318, 556
Acklin, H. G. 372, 744
Adams, Geo. W. 349
Adams, J. M. 379
Adkins, G. H. 526
Aikin, R. C. 230
A la Kink, 207
Albert, Chas. 652
Alexander, Wm. V. 436
Allen, Chas. B. 366
Alley, Henry, 458
Alley, Mrs. Henry, 456
Allin, F. G. 124
Amos, Mrs. A. L. 90, 441, 537
Anderson, B. F. 740
Anderson, H. J. 556
Ansell, W. R. 325
Antes, Mrs. J. L. 681
Archer, Dr. J. 735
Armstrong, J. C. 476
Ascha, C. G. 364
Ashbaugh, F. G. 237
Atwater, E. F. 199, 622
Auntie Bee. 393, 425
Ausmus, J. B. 77
Austin, A. R. 122
Austin, Kate V. 73, 215, 328, 652
Average Bee-Keeper, 344
Axtell, Mrs. L. C. 265, 296

Babb, E. J. 109
Babcock, H. E. 252
Bahr, Rudolph, 474
Bailey, J. S. 287
Baker, C. F. 78, 332
Baker, James H. 379
Baldwin, A. A. 363
Baldwin, A. Y. 203
Ballinger, W. A. 703
Ball, Mrs. C. A. 149, 200
Ball, W. D. 285
Banker, Fred, 365, 732
Barber, C. J. 237
Bartlett, Wm. 427
Bartrum, Mrs. H. W. 488
Bartz, A. C. F. 298, 364, 454
Beattie, J. H. 86
Bechly, Fred, 75
Becker, Chas. 197
Bee-Keeper in Virginia, 519, 623
Beers, H. 715
Beginner, 508
Behrens, H. 364
Beitel, Alois, 731
Bell, G. W. 110
Bennitt, Mark, 372
Benson, C. H. 206, 241
Beverlin, W. H. 76
Bevins, Edwin, 38, 277, 539, 647, 774
Bingham, T. F. 620, 759
Bishop, Edwin, 349
Black, S. N. 252
Blakly, C. W. 347
Blanton, Dr. O. M. 271
Blocher, John A. 124
Blunk, J. P. 727
Boardman, H. R. 694
Bohrer, Dr. G. 198, 374, 524, 573, 618, 647
Bonnot, Paul S. 600
Boughter, James Grant, 590
Boutwell, Roy A. 447
Bowerman, Sarah K. 215
Bowles, W. A. 452
Boyd U. S. 283, 350
Boynton, D. B. 30
Bradford, Mrs. E. G. 121
Brodbeck, Geo. W. 116, 452, 757
Broderick, Thomas, 534, 564
Brown, F. E. 887
Brown, Waldo F. 678
Browning, Elizabeth Barrett, 636
Browning, W. P. 330
Buchner, R. H. 44, 319, 558
Buckanan, M. M. 590
Bunch, C. A. 237
Burns, A. J. 158, 205
Bussey, E. L. 846
Buswell, Turner, 493
Byer, J. L. 383

Callbreath, John S. 439
Carpenter, A. B. 557
Carr, H. M. 37
Carson, Leonidas, 525
Carson, Wm. F. 100
Chadwick, John White, 100
Chandler, M. K. 510
Cheney, Louis A, 382
Chinn, Harvey R. 699
Christensen, H. 36, 885
Chrysler, W. A. 245
Cilley, Chas. W. 366
Clapp, Chas. E. 171
Clasen, John H. 316
Clemons & Co., C. C. 578
Cleveland, Ralph D. 168, 611
Clover-Blossom, 551
Coburn, John P. 174, 334
Colorado, 520
Common-Sense Bee-Keeping, 44
Cook, A. T. 52
Cook, E. L. 380
Cook, Prof. A. J. 21, 165, 358, 420, 533, 597, 612, 693, 758, 838
Cooler, C. W. 127
Cooley, E. D. 685
Corry, R. C. 110
Coverdale, Frank, 110, 295
Cox, John, 362
Cox, Roy, 108
Coyle, W. R. M. 795
Crane, J. E. 548
Cremers, L. H. 189
Crim, S. T. 702
Culvey, J. W. 164

Dadant, C. P., 53, 102, 165, 214, 260, 310, 373, 453, 489, 565, 612, 631, 726, 773, 790, 870
Dappel, Chas. J. 618
Darrow, Chas. M. 740, 797
Davenport, B. T. 396
Davenport, C. 38, 231
Davenport Stephen, 154, 537
Davis, John M. 356
Day, F. L. 206, 446, 778
Dayton, C. W. 237
De Courcy, Wm. 678
Dee, Emm. 25
Deitz, A. M. 741
Dexter & Son, F. Z. 351
Dicks, Allen C. 668
Digges, C. J. S. 823
Dittmer, Gus, 164
Doggett, Miss Lucy F. 793
Doolittle, G. M. 5, 86, 247, 308, 332, 342, 389, 421, 502, 550, 613, 663, 710
Dotson, Newton, 334
Dougherty, B. N. 651
Dowdy, John S. 234
Drake, F. H. 508, 572
Drexel, Frank H. 167
Dunx, Edward, 269
Duby, H. S. 315
Duescher, Wm. 239
Dupret, H. 264, 427
Durling, Robert, 489

Eaton, Prof. E. N. 710
Edgeworth, W. C. 570, 652, 718, 735
Edwards, Evan E. 237 606
Edwards, Loren, 348
Edwards, O. D. 693
Ellifritz, J. S. 525
Elmore, Luna, 360
Ellsworth, W. E. 303
Elwood, P. H. 36
Ensley, J. R. 190
Ercanbrack, C. K. 45
Erickson, A. G. 363
Evans, Clara West, 280
Ewing, M. B. 366

Fagan, G. W. 351
Feeback, W. S. 108, 252
Fee, W. A. 414
Ferguson, J. W. 686
Ferree, J. W. 267
Ferry, H. S. 345
Fisch, Math, 237
Fisher, W. 572
Fixter, John, 293
Flanagan, E. T. 188
Foote, A. F. 380, 694, 822
Forehand, W. J. 324
Fox, Franklin G. 591
France, N. E. 143, 404, 440, 467, 493, 547, 837
Francisco, Peter L. 316
Freas, Herbert, 558
Freeman, A. J. 236, 628, 635

Garner, H. M. 396, 747
Getaz, Adrian, 190, 294, 438, 661, 742, 807
Gilder, R. F. 452
Gilger, Mrs. D. S. 392
Gilbert, H. 31, 324
Gill, M. A. 88, 365, 532
Gilliland, Wm. J. 712
Goetsch, A. A. 362
Gordon, G. W. 302
Graham, George S. 251, 571
Graham, Fred E. 254
Graves, E. M. 492
Green, J. A. 212
Greiner, F. 54
Greiner, G. C. 246, 341, 438, 503
Greves, Harry, 350
Griffin, O. B. 330
Griffith, Mrs. Sarah J. 105, 473
Gross, Gustave, 573, 716
Grover, James, 110
Guernsey, C. S. 79
Guiden, L. M. 821
Gunderson, W. G. 331

Haag, J. S. 388
Hackworth, Miss B. Louisa, 553
Hadsell, B. A. 12
Hager, Henry L. 412
Hall, F. W. 156, 349, 381, 618
Hall, Mrs. Queen B. 567
Hambaugh, J. M. 646
Hammond, L. A. 203
Hanegan, Leo F. 388, 586, 644
Hansen, Henry, 331
Hanson, V. A. 360, 734
Harbech, P. H. 317
Harlan, C. H. 364, 651
Harland, Marion, 871
Harris, C. S. 77
Harris, Charles M. 298
Harris, Jas. U. 7, 877
Harris, W. D. 108, 814
Harrison, Lovell, 437
Harrison, Mrs. L. 25.
Hasty, E. E. 244, 459, 510
Hawk, G. D. 155, 588
Haynes, David, 508
Healy, Wm. J. 348
Heath, Samuel, 175
Heinlen, H. P. 445
Henry, Thomas, 287
Herlong, D. H. 635
Herman, F. G. 822
Highet, Mrs. Bertha A. 690
Hillman, Mrs. W. J. 105
Hinderer, Frank, 468, 779
Hitt, Samuel H. 668
Hoadley, C. F. 491
Hobert, W. H. 186, 489, 526
Hodgkins, C. 275
Hogarty, W. P. 29
Holekamp, Robt. A. 39, 631
Holmes, Mrs. H. C. 360
Holtermann, R. F. 472
Horner, Mrs. R. M. 40
Hoskins, Rev. R. 275
Hotze, O. C. 77
House, Howard H. 157, 236
Houser, Arthur A. 332
House, S. D. 408
Howard, Jas. L. 44
Howard, Wm. R. 5
Howe, Harry, 280
Huerkens, Herman, 427
Hugentobler, R. C. 486
Humphrey, Ezra, 283
Hunsberger, A. C. 153, 287
Hunt, Mrs. H. H. 604
Hurt, W. D. 171
Hutchinson, W. Z. 148, 502, 773, 860, 873
Hyde, Homer H. 276, 835, 847, 870
Hyde, Ira L. 590
Hyde, O. P. 646

Irish, James H. 358
Irvine, Sr., W. 476, 574, 619, 733
Iselin, Sebastian, 414, 492

Jackman, A. C. 269
Jacobs, A. R. 265
Jacobs, W. W. 154, 284, 445
Johnson, Dr. W. A. 111
Johnson, J. E. 30, 101, 118, 277, 406, 485, 491, 510, 581, 604, 700
Johnson, J. W. 381
Jones, Orville, 268

Kane Co., Ill. 29
Kane, Jas. P. 27, 47
Kannenberg, C. F. 324
Keeler, Thad H. 191
Keith, H. W. 76
Kelly, Ann F. 169, 214, 280, 537
Kennedy, John, 11, 494
Kennicott, E. E. 556
Kilgore, A. J. 183, 333, 379, 777
King, Mrs. Lou O. 392
Klein, LL.B., Henry, 470
Knoll, Edward, 301
Koehler, Louis C. 212
Koentz, C. H. 211
Kramer, Joe 284
Kuehne, M. B. 373

Lake, Wm. 237
Lamkin, Lewis, 78
Larrabee, W. G. 326
Latham, Allen, 19, 53, 173, 182, 237, 261, 343, 359, 362, 363, 742, 855
Lathrop, Harry, 541
Laws, W. H. 212, 614, 775, 793
Lee, E. W. 493
Lemaster, P. T. 79, 362
Lewis, W. T. 511
Lincoln, C. M. 109, 347, 459, 621
Linscott, J. M. 367, 813
Long, Irving, 30, 73, 414, 827
Lott, B. O. 245
Lovesy, E. S. 732
Lowe, F. D. 371
Lowe, Mrs. Nellie, 215, 248
Luebke, Chas. 73
Luedhoff, Herman, 287
Lyell, John W. 573
Lyle, M. R. 76
Lyman, I. L. 237
Lyman, R. H. 444
Lyman, W. C. 6

McBride, A. J. 78
McBride, F. 382
McCain, R. B. 195, 234
McCarthy, D. 173
McColley, R. L. 300, 381, 458, 476
McCradie, Robert, 94
McDonald, W. F. 411, 556
McDowell, P. 363
McEvoy, Wm. 309
McGuire, G. W. 540
McLeod, D. C. 237, 527, 557, 826
Macbrair, A. W. 46
Mack, Mrs. L. 72
Maeder, Hugo, 798
Majors, Samuel C. 668
Maneke, Fred W. 508
Mangus, C. A. 364, 732
Marks, W. F. 24
Marrs, D. F. 747
Matson, S. A. 412
Mears, Mrs. C.D. 183, 328
Merkley, John, 663
Merriam & Son, 78
Mersing, E. C. 330
Michael, J.F. 236, 259, 260
Michael, John N. 203
Middlecamp, Mrs. Wm. 168
Miles, E. S. 110
Miller, Dr. C. C. 4, 182, 212, 308, 310, 344, 373, 439, 581
Miller, James L. A. 314
Miller, Wm. 78
Miner, Leon E. 531
Missouri, 718
Mohr, Mike D. 619
Monson, John, 300
Moore, Geo. E. 493, 700
Moore, Herman F. 485
Moore, Wm. 527
Moore, W. A. 110, 302
Moorehead, Art E. 511
Moorehouse, H. C. 7, 23, 324, 390
Morgareidge, C. W. 335
Morrow, W. H. 301
Muth Co., The Fred W. 563
Muth, Fred W. 292
Muth-Rasmussen, Wm. 406

Nash, J. A. 187
Nebraska, 74
Neilson, D. 366
Nelson, Mrs. C. H. 711
Newton, John, 533
Nicholson, A. B. 287
Noble, A. H. 235
North, Lyman, 557
Norton, J. G. 300
Nusbaum, L. 652
Nydegger, John, 725
Nye, Wm, 333

Oldenburg, C. J. 236
O'Neal, Earl P. 330
Opfer, A. H. 196
Osborn, I. T. 116

Packard, Mrs. Adella, 248
Pagan, E. V. 262
Pain, W. H. 164
Paintin, John T. 79, 493
Parker, Mrs. Anna, 441
Parson, A. S. 363
Pattison, R. R. 476
Patton, A. E. 236, 798
Patton, J. S. 351
Paxson, Mrs. Nellie G. 488
Pawletta, D. J. 444
Pearson, J. F. 510
Peck, B. W. 330
Peiro, Dr. 238, 445
Pendroy, E. C. 635
Pettit, Morley, 118, 126, 279, 412, 439
Pettit, S. T. 363, 366, 453, 518, 559
Pharr, John W. 719, 828, 843
Phillips, M. S. 285
Pickard, W. J. 349, 427
Placid, Charley, 606
Plank, D. H. 636
Poindexter, G. 14
Poppleton, O. O. 492
Porter, H. H. 847
Porter, W. L. 103
Prior, Chas. Edward, 424
Pritchett, E. B. 77, 347
Pryal, W. A. 84, 164, 180, 284, 373, 422, 629, 685, 716, 764

Quirin, H. G. 622

Ragan, Edw. M. 762
Raner, P. B. 121
Rauchfuss, Frank, 136
Raught, A. P. 45
Ray, Mrs. Mary A. 90, 121, 360

Rea, Geo. H. 77, 559
Redden, L. E. 29
Reddert, Henry. 535
Reed, Geo. A. 468
Reno, J. T. Jr. 13, 126, 252
Ricketts, L. V. 327, 632
Ridley, J. 364, 572
Risler, W. S. 335
Roby, Mrs. S. M. 168
Roe, E. S. 268, 381
Rohrig, Wm. 363
Rood, E. B. 534
Root, Ernest R. 884
Root, Huber H. 60
Root, L. C. 14
Roseman, Frank M. 153
Ross, Wm. 315
Rosson, Lon, 237
Rozell, Albert, 153, 234
Russell, C. R. 121
Russell, Dr. E. D. 75, 191
Russell, L. L. 741
Russell, Mrs. 745

Sagebrush, 78
Sager, Chas. W. 92, 388
Sagendorf, Florence W. 312
Sams, Chas. L. 108
Sanders, N. 79
Sangster, Margaret E. 440
Scardifield, Wm. M. 314
Schmertman, Lewis, 43
Schmidt, B. F. 348, 734
Schmidt Co., R. H. 237
Scholl, Louis H. 566, 584
Schoon, John G. 100, 382
Secor, Eugene, 36, 451, 452
Seibold, Jacob, 79
Seifert, Geo. M. 557
Shafer, W. W. 660
Shaw, Joseph, 539
Shedenhelm, J. N. 335
Shepherd, M. W. 51
Sibbald, H. G. 263, 517
Siebert, J. J. 260
Simmons, Chas. M. 428
Simon, M. N. 158
Simpson, J. L. 604
Singletary, S. B. 314
Smale, Mary L. 841
Smith, Elizabeth M. 280
Smith, Harry, 363
Smith, Harvey, 255
Smith, Jay, 164
Smith, J. Q. 324
Smith, J. W. 318
Smith, R. K. 558
Smith, S. B. 235, 276, 575, 780
Snider, John F. 732
Snowden, A. J. 700
Snowberger, A. H. 188
Snyder, F. A. 333
Snyder, Mrs. C. W. 603
Spence, H. S. 254
Spitler, George, 45
Stachelhausen, L. 567
Stainingor, N. 414
Stanley & Son, Thos. C. 253
Stauton, S. B. 749
Steele, J. W. 300
Steger, Theodore, 36
Stewart, John C. 349
Stillwell, F. B. 701
Stolley, Wm. 22, 79, 124, 236, 317, 458, 838
Stone, B. F. 31
Stone, James A. 197
Stout, George, 685, 731
Strittmatter, F. J. 276, 622
Strong, J. L. 453, 590
Stuart, Daniel, 366
Stumpe, H. B. 155
Sturtevant, E. H. 411
Subscriber, 286, 574, 635
Suter, John, 44
Sutherland, Henry, 444

Tackaberry, A. B. 79
Tallady, H. D. 381, 388
Terril, H. B. 605
Theilmann, Mary, 405
Theilman, Wm. 718
Thomas, J. A. 171
Thompson, Mrs. M. 72
Thompson, R. 234
Timmerman, A. H. 524
Titoff, Abram, 880
Townsend, E. D. 326
Travis, I. A. 172
Trittenbach, Edwin, 196, 333
Tucker, E. 413
Tucker, J. W. 798
Tucker, Mrs. J. W. 389
Tucker, Mrs. Laura, 760
Tyrrell, E. B. 486

Vanderwerp, H. 459
Vangundy, G. W. 78
Virginia bee-keeper, 77
Virgin, C. W. 404
Voigt, C. H. 187, 732

Wade, Mrs. J. B. 648
Wagar, D. I. 75, 556
Wahl, Louis F. 503
Wainwright, Catherine, 248, 280
Wair, C. H. 395
Wale, C. H. 362
Walterhouse, J. H. 412
Wann, F. A. 195
Ward, Edwin, 604
Ward, Sarah S. 409
Washburn, O. P. 15
Waterhouse, Alfred J. 308
Weaver, J. M. R. 511
Webb, Wm. R. Jr. 333
Weber, C. H. W. 132
Webster, F. 365
Weckerle, Mrs. A. 169, 265
Weissenfels, J. A. 715
Welch, T. R. G. 628
Welden, T. A. 204
Wellman, J. L. 731
West, J. M. 509
West, N. D. 455
West, Robert, 407, 791
Westrum, Peter, 413
Wheeler, E. C. 509
Wheeler, Miss F. E. 149 633
Whitaker, J. B. 493
White, C. E. 382
White, Martha, 348
White, N. R. 509
Whitney, Wm. M. 198, 335, 668
Wilder, J. J. 287
Wilder, J. W. 74
Wilkes, A. H. 35
Wilkins, Geo. E. 699
Willis, G. T. 79
Wilson, G. W. 570
Wilson, Mrs. L. 567
Winkler, Chas. 301, 811
Winter, I. V. 621
Wintle, Gilbert, 14
Wolfe, James, 701
Wood, Delos, 110
Woodman, Lewis C. & A. G., 409
Working, D. W. 598
Wray, W. M. 394
Wurth, Carl, 664

Yon Yonson, 159, 431
York, George W. 59, 436
Young, J. M. 45
Young, N. 100, 395

Zahner, Max. 413
Zurpann, C. H. 285

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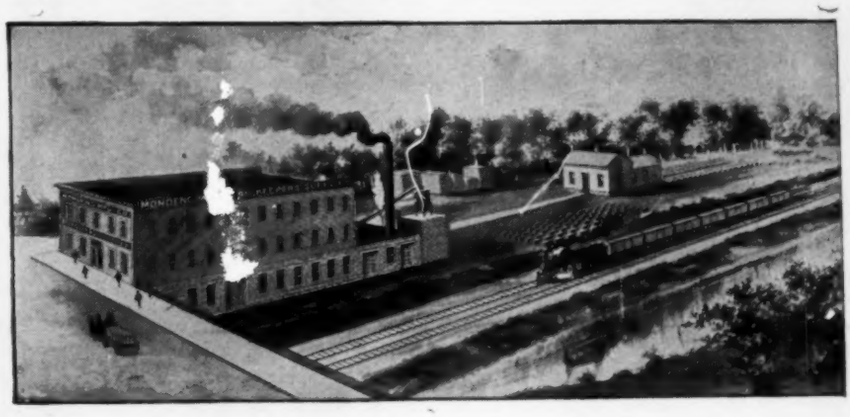

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Honey and Beeswax

CHICAGO, Dec. 7.—The market is well supplied with all kinds of honey; the demand is of a light nature. Fancy comb honey brings 14c, but quality as well as appearance is necessary; No. 1 sells at 12½@13c; off grades difficult to move at 1@3c less. Extracted, choice white, 7@7½c; amber, 6@7c, with off grades about 5½c per pound. Beeswax, 30c.

R. A. BURNETT & Co.

NEW YORK, Dec. 7.—Receipts of late have been quite heavy, and while there has been a fair demand, it has not been up to former years and stocks are somewhat accumulating, consequently prices show a tendency to decline, and in large lots quotation prices as a rule are shaded. We quote fancy white at 14@15c; No. 1 white at 12@13c; amber, 11c; buckwheat, 10c. Extracted in fair demand at 6@6½c for white clover; 5½c for buckwheat; 50@60c per gallon for Southern, according to quality. Beeswax firm at from 28@29c.

HILDRETH & SEGELKEN.

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 24.—As usual around the holidays, there is not much call for either comb or extracted honey. Prices remain about the same as the last quotations. Some odd lots having arrived in the market in the last 10 days has weakened the price of lower grades. Fancy white comb, 15@16 cents; No. 1, 13@14c; amber, 11@12c. Extracted, white, 7@8c; amber, 6@7c. Beeswax, 26c.

We are producers of honey and do not handle on commission. WM. A. SELSER.

BOSTON, Nov. 19.—Recent heavy arrivals together with very low quotations from some other markets have had a tendency to weaken our market. We quote fancy No. 1, 15@16c; No. 2, 14c, with ample stocks; absolutely no call for buckwheat. Extracted honey, 6@8c.

BLAKE, SCOTT & LEE.

CINCINNATI, Dec. 10.—The demand for honey at the present time is not good, owing to the approach of the holidays, when too many sweets are found on the market. On the other hand, the trade is well supplied with comb honey, that will require a considerable length of time to be consumed. We are offering white clover extracted honey in barrels and cans at 6½@8½ cents; amber, 5¾@6½c. Fancy comb honey, 12½@14c. Beeswax, 29@30c.

THE FRED W. MUTH CO.

ALBANY, N.Y., Nov. 9.—The crop of honey is turning out to be larger than estimated, and prices are softening, favoring the buyer. We quote fancy white, 15c; A No. 1, 14c; No. 1, 13c; mixed, 11@12c; buckwheat, best, 13c; average run, 11@12c. Extracted, buckwheat, 6c; white clover, 6½c; mixed, 6c. Beeswax, 29@30c.

H. R. WRIGHT.

KANSAS CITY, Sept. 22.—Market on comb honey is quite active at $2.75 per case for fancy white stock. Extracted rather slow at 6½@7c. We look for the demand on extracted to pick up considerably with cooler weather. Beeswax in good demand at 30c per pound.

C. C. CLEMONS & Co.

CINCINNATI, O., Dec. 19.—Comb honey is now coming in more freely, and prices if anything have moderated a little. The sales made and prices obtained were for No. 1 fancy white comb, 12@13½c; single cases, 14c. Extracted is sold as follows: White clover, in barrels, 6½c; in cans, 7½@8c; amber, in barrels, 5¼@5½c; in cans, 6@6½c. Beeswax, 27c.

C. H. W. WEBER

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 14.—White comb, 1-lb. sections, 11½@12½c; amber, 9@11c. Extracted white, 6@6½ cents; light amber, 4½@5½c; amber, 3¾@4¼c; dark amber, 3@3½c. Beeswax, good to choice, light, 29@30c; dark, 27@28c.

The market is quiet. Stocks are not of large volume, either here or in the interior, but some of the principal holders are urging honey to sale, being desirous of effecting a clean-up at an early date.

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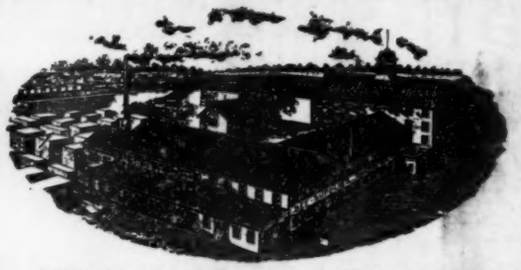

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